

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or)
)
Revocation of the Educators Certificate)
)
of Cynthia Roscoe)
)
Educator Certificate # 216587)

ORDER OF PERMANENT REVOCATION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (Board) considered this matter on January 13, 2004. On November 21, 2003, the State Department of Education (Department) sent notice of hearing regarding the possible suspension or revocation of her South Carolina teaching certificate (certificate) # 216587 to Ms. Roscoe by certified mail, return receipt requested delivery restricted to addressee. Ms. Roscoe received the notice, as evidenced by the signed receipt. She did not request a hearing within the period provided by law, and is now in default. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the Board voted to permanently revoke Ms. Roscoe's educator certificate # 216587, effective January 13, 2004, providing that she may never re-apply for an educator certificate in South Carolina.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Roscoe is a first year teacher and was employed for the 2003-2004 school year with the Chesterfield County School District (District) as a teacher at Cheraw Primary School. On October 15, 2003, the District received copies of pornographic pictures of Ms. Roscoe that were allegedly posted on Ms. Roscoe's Internet website, as well as a copy of a highly inappropriate email message of a sexual nature allegedly sent by Ms. Roscoe from her classroom computer during instructional time. She was

suspended on October 17, 2003, after the District confronted her with these documents.

Ms. Roscoe resigned her employment effective October 28, 2003.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (1990). Just cause includes: “Unprofessional conduct;...Immorality;... and Any conduct involving moral turpitude....” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (1990); 24 S.C. Code Regulations Ann. 43-58 (1992). The Board finds that the preponderance of the evidence presented, which is undisputed by Ms. Roscoe, supports its decision to permanently revoke Ms. Roscoe’s teaching certificate # 216587, effective January 13, 2004. As a provision of this Order, Ms. Roscoe may never re-apply for a South Carolina educators certificate.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Mary E. Jones
Mary E. Jones
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
January 13, 2004